

MR. HAROLD MACMILLAN is not taking kindly to the loneliness of supreme office. Therefore it was in keeping with his character that the other night he left Downing Street and walked over to one of his clubs and had a good talk with old cronies. I am told that, like Sir Winston Churchill, he also realises that the discussions in the privacy of the smoke room at Westminster are sometimes more important than the debates in the Chamber.

Sir Winston Churchill has always sat at one place in the smoke room with his back to the terrace, and neither Sir Anthony nor Mr. Macmillan claimed *ex officio* rights after Sir Winston's resignation as Prime Minister. It is sacred to the great Old Man, and no one will profane it.

Incidentally, there was tremendous anxiety when someone said on Thursday that Winston was dead. Happily it was discovered that it was the famous horse which had become part of the ritual of Trooping the Colour. Fortunately for Her Majesty, Winston possessed few of the impetuous qualities of its famous namesake.

Independence for Ever

JULIAN AMERY, the unbending Suez rebel, drew a capacity House when he made his Ministerial debut. There was a glint in his eye which suggested that even the discipline of office will not curb the independence of his mind. Parliament meant almost everything to his father, yet when Leo Amery was defeated at the polls he refused a peerage because he did not want to doom his son to the limited political career of the House of Lords.

As a speaker Julian Amery has a tendency towards the *staccato*, which can be very effective on occasion. Yet he needs to acquire a *legato* if he



JULIAN AMERY

is to be numbered among the orators. The ear is a demanding critic and calls for variation of tempo and nuance.

Too Few Faithful

WHY were there so few prominent musicians at the memorial service for Signor Toscanini at St. James's Church in Spanish Place? Certainly it was a raw, wet morning but that is a poor excuse. Mr. Rafael Kubelick and Sir Adrian Boult and a few others were faithful to the end, but what had happened to the rest?

Toscanini was not only the most eminent conductor of his time but as a citizen of the world he refused to follow Mussolini's baton in 1938 and was placed under house arrest while his passport was impounded. After the Munich conference, when Mussolini thought there would be peace for ever, Toscanini's passport was returned to him, whereupon he went to the United States and did not return to Italy until after the war.

It was thought by many that his death was hastened by the

news that his protégé, the youthful Guido Cantelli, had been killed in an air crash, but this was not so. The tragedy was mercifully withheld from him.

The service at St. James's Church was impressive and the choral singing was admirable, but one could not but feel a touch of incongruity about the draped empty coffin in the

chancel. It is in effect an attempt at realism which defeats its object.

We were grateful to impresario Gorlinsky for giving London a chance to do honour to the great aristocrat of the baton, and to Signora Ebe Stignani for her rendering of a solo from Verdi's Requiem. But the fact must be accepted that the man who drew great audiences

in his lifetime was honoured in death by only a faithful few.

Sorrow in Paradise

THERE is trouble in Paradise, or at any rate there is sorrow. A friend of mine who is much addicted to the pleasures of the gambling table acquired a house at Nassau.

To his delight he, learned there is a casino in Nassau

which has the honour of being the only one of its kind in the British Commonwealth. It is open only for the winter season of three months, but during that time it offers the pleasures of roulette, chemin-defer and a mysterious American game known as "craps."

On a warm winter's evening you can see Americans, Canadians and Europeans chasing their luck while considerable hard currency changes hands. Unhappily it is not open to British residents. Truly we are a strange race. Britons are the most persistent gamblers in the world, but a bookmaker cannot recover a debt by the process of law.

There is sunlight and moonlight in the Bahamas, there is the monotonous yet fascinating calypso music of the people, there are the waves that lapped the shore, but for the British gamblers there is only the cry of "*Rien ne va plus*."

Reprieve for Cattle?

"CHEERS from all parts of the House" have not been a conspicuous amenity of Parliament in recent weeks, but the common consent which could not be found in a common emergency came spontaneously enough last week through our national love of animals.

Readers of *THE SUNDAY TIMES* will have found a familiar ring in the questions put by M.P.s about the export of live cattle. The raw material of the pleas which led the Minister of Agriculture to announce an urgent inquiry into the conditions under which cattle worth £1 million a month have been transported to the Continent was drawn direct from the challenging reports of my colleague Joyce Emerson.

Her journey in a cattle-boat from Hull to Calais and on to the slaughter-yards disclosed conditions bound to cause suffering to these wretched animals. It is good to feel that her descriptions in this newspaper of the cattle's plight and the recommendations of the veterinary surgeon who accompanied her seem certain now to achieve their purpose.

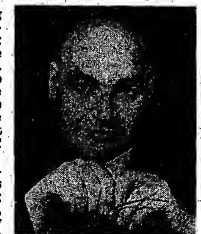
The Press has had victories no less renowned, but I take leave to doubt whether any previous disclosures of such a kind have brought such prompt action.

In Fine Army

I CANNOT remember such a send-off for a book as that which launched Sir Arthur Bryant's "*The Turn of the*

Tide" based on the diaries of Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke. Over 1,200 people crowded the ballroom of the Dorchester Hotel to gaze upon the famous personalities on the platform.

I am assured by a man of impeccable character and



SIR ARTHUR BRYANT

sobriety that a breakdown of the celebrities would show:

- 6 N.A.T.O. Ambassadors,
- 2 High Commissioners,
- 15 Attaches,
- 28 Generals,
- 22 Lieutenant-Generals, and no fewer than
- 65 Major-Generals.

As a man of peace I do not want to cause enmity between the Services and shall, therefore, declare at once that there were three full Admirals of the Fleet as well as an extraordinary number of lesser Admirals.

When we add three Marshals of the Air Force, four Air Chief Marshals who are members of the Air Council and a supporting cast of Air Marshals in their own right you will realise that it was a formidable affair. As for the rest of the audience, I can only state that if a bomb had hit the Dorchester there would have been a serious gap in Debrett's and Who's Who.

Famous "Unknown"

Why all this excitement? The truth is that Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke is the most famous "unknown" of our time. At the unveiling of Bryant's opus he was on the platform, looking like a sharp-eyed accountant about to examine a company's books. But heroism has no standard shape.

When, on Friday, Lord Alanbrooke appeared on television to discuss his diaries, Lieutenant-General Sir Brian Horrocks, who served under him at Dunkirk, told viewers "I can assure you that he was the greatest soldier of them all."

and added, "he has emerged as a scurriety!"

Viewers study him as they must have been studying Lord Alanbrooke's decision and official authority, all the while fascinatingly aware of the platform.

Island Rules

I HEAR THAT I will be visited shortly, when discussions about the visit of the Philip in a few days. The assistant "Parliament," ancient Chamberlain, the weight of her, but also that even in a

In this Island there is no income which has drawn a people over the years. Britain. In fact, at a Bryant reception I literary friend Desmond who spends much of

I understand that the population is now all and that the total is somewhere in the 700. The debates in the movement conducted in which is apparently a modernised version of

The Dame is a lady personality, and I am forward to renew acquaintance here.

Harbingers

I HAVE received my copy of the Test Match West Indies at Lord's comes can spring, indeed?

People and Words

"The new generation is all provided they are given a chance and plenty of good reasons to the street corner a dull, point sort of place."

—SIR STANLEY ROUSE
"It is always confusing to live in the middle of an industrial revolution, which is what we are doing now."

—MR. HAROLD WATKINSON
"The Minister of Transport I like to gossip of, even if only about nice things."

—MR. ...
"The only after-dinner of mine I am given a chance of my wife and say 'You dear, I'll do them'."

—MR. STEPHEN MOHR
(Com. Sec.)

"My own tastes are classical composers—Mozart and Beethoven."
—MR. BRYANT
The Book of the